

Online-Only Abstracts

Haitian variant *ctxB* producing *Vibrio cholerae* O1 with reduced susceptibility to ciprofloxacin is persistent in Yavatmal, Maharashtra, India, after causing a cholera outbreak

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Abstract

Vibrio cholerae O1 biotype El Tor producing Haitian variant Cholera Toxin (HCT) and showing reduced susceptibility to ciprofloxacin caused a cholera outbreak associated with a high case fatality rate (4.5) in India. HCT-secreting strains responsible for severe cholera epidemics in Orissa (India), Western Africa and Haiti were associated with increased mortality. There is a pressing need for an integrated multidisciplinary approach to combat further spread of newly emerging variant strains. The therapeutic effect of ciprofloxacin was diminished whereas use of doxycycline in moderate to severe cholera patients was found to be effective in outbreak management.

Evaluation of different culture methods for the diagnosis of peritonitis in patients on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis

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Abstract

A total of 170 continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD) fluids were processed by various culture methods, including direct inoculation of the centrifuged sediment, inoculation into automated blood culture bottles, water lysis, Tween-80 incorporated blood agar, and Triton-X treatment of the specimen. Of 170 CAPD fluids, 127 showed the growth of bacteria/fungi. Sixty-three fluids showed growth by all methods, the water lysis alone detected 24 additional positive cultures, while Tween-80 blood agar and Triton-X yielded 30 additional positive cultures. A combination of water lysis, Tween-80 blood agar and Triton-X treatment of the CAPD fluid is recommended for diagnosis of CAPD peritonitis in resource-limited settings.

In vitro activity of cefoxitin and imipenem against *Mycobacterium abscessus* complex

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Abstract

The *in vitro* activity of cefoxitin and imipenem was compared for 43 strains of the *Mycobacterium abscessus* complex, mostly isolated from cystic fibrosis patients. The MICs of imipenem were lower than those of cefoxitin, although the number of imipenem-resistant strains was higher according to the CLSI breakpoints. Strain comparisons indicated that the MICs of cefoxitin were significantly higher for *Mycobacterium bolletii* than for *M. abscessus*. The MICs of both β -lactams were higher for the rough morphotype than for the smooth morphotype. The clinical impact of the *in vitro* difference between the activity of imipenem and that of cefoxitin remains to be determined.